

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A mine support ~~which includes~~ comprising:

a deformable tubular sleeve,

a first material ~~with a density in excess of 900kg/m^3 and~~ with a first strength characteristic inside, ~~a first interior portion of the sleeve and filling said~~ a first interior portion of the sleeve, and

a second material with ~~a density less than 1000kg/m^3 and with~~ a second strength characteristic which differs from the first strength characteristic inside, ~~a second interior portion of the sleeve and filling said~~ a second interior portion of the sleeve, and wherein, in use, one material overlies the other material.

2. (Currently Amended) A mine support according to claim 1 wherein the first interior portion is adjacent the second interior portion.

3. (Currently Amended) A mine support according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the first interior portion has a length, in an axial direction of the sleeve, which is greater than the length of the second interior portion in the axial direction of the sleeve.

4. (Currently amended) A mine support according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ wherein the first interior portion has a length in an axial direction of the sleeve of from 70% to 90% of the axial length of the sleeve.

5. (Currently amended) A mine support according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ wherein the first interior portion has a length in an axial direction of the sleeve of from 10% to 30% of the axial length of the sleeve.

6. (Currently amended) A mine support according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ wherein the first material is a lightweight cementitious mixture.

7. (original) A mine support according to claim 6 wherein the first material is foamed or aerated concrete.

8. (Currently amended) A mine support according to claim 6 ~~or 7~~ wherein the density of the first material lies in the range of from 1000 to 1100kg/m³.

9. (Currently amended) A mine support according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ wherein the second material is a lightweight cementitious mixture.

10. (original) A mine support according to claim 9 wherein the second material is foamed or aerated concrete.

11. (Currently amended) A mine support according to claim 9 ~~or 10~~ wherein the density of the second material lies in the range of from 800 to 900kg/m³.

12. (Currently amended) A mine support according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ wherein the sleeve is made from a material selected from the following: a ductile metal, plastic, fibre, reinforced concrete, resin impregnated paper.

13. (original) A mine support according to claim 12 wherein the sleeve is made from mild steel with a thickness in the range of from 1,6mm to 3,0mm.

14. (Currently amended) A mine support according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ wherein the sleeve has an axial length in the range of from 1,5m to 4,5m and a diameter in the range of from 150mm to 600mm.

15. (Currently amended) A mine support ~~which includes~~ comprising a ductile metal sleeve having an interior ~~of which is~~ filled with a first aerated cementitious material of a first density which extends over at least 60% of the axial length of the sleeve, and with a second aerated cementitious material of a second density, which is less than the first density, and which fills a remainder of the interior of the sleeve.